Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An in vitro method of recognizing and diagnosing acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris ~~and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely~~ involving myocardial micronecrosis ~~and ischemic membrane destruction~~, characterized by determining the content of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD) in body fluids or component parts of the body wherein an increase in CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris ~~and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely~~ involving myocardial micronecrosis ~~and ischemic membrane destruction~~.

2. (Currently amended) The in vitro method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the content of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD) is evaluated taking into account a limit value.

3. (Currently amended) An in vitro method of recognizing and diagnosing acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction, characterized by determining the content of reaction products of choline, choline and/or trimethyl

ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD) in body fluids or component parts of the body, the reaction products being selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate, wherein an increase in reaction products of CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction.

4. (Currently amended) An in vitro method of recognizing and diagnosing acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction, characterized by watching a condition or process in body fluids or component parts of the body which condition or process is determined by the content of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD), and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate, wherein an increase in CCTD and/or reaction products of CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction.

5. (Currently amended) An in vitro method of recognizing and diagnosing acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~

namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction, characterized in that quantitative, semiquantitative, or qualitative observations are made which are determined by the content of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD), and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate in body fluids or component parts of the body, wherein an increase in CCTD and/or reaction products of CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction.

6. (Currently amended) The in vitro method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) methods, biochemical, enzymatic, immunological, clinical-chemical, chromatographic, mass spectrometric, electrochemical, photometric methods are applied to determine choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD), and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate.

7. (Currently amended) An in vitro method of recognizing and diagnosing acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction,

characterized in that body fluids or component parts of the body are subjected to NMR spectroscopy and the evaluation is accomplished by pattern ~~recognition of~~ recognition of a plurality of substances, especially of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline (CCTD), of the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate, and of creatine and dimethyl amine, wherein an increase in CCTD and/or reaction products of CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction.

8. (Original) The in vitro method as claimed in claim 1, characterized by determining choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline, and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate in a body fluid selected from a group comprising serum, plasma, whole blood, prepared blood sample, and urine.

9. (Currently amended) Means for use in the diagnosis and/or analysis of acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction, suitable for a method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8.

10. (Currently amended) A test kit for diagnosis and/or analysis of acute coronary ~~syndroms~~ syndromes, generally when there is suspicion of an acute coronary syndrome, ~~especially~~ namely, an

acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction, characterized by comprising means for receiving a body fluid or a component part of a body and means for detecting choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline, and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate in the body fluid or component part of the body, wherein an increase in CCTD and/or reaction products of CCTD causes the diagnosis of acute coronary syndromes, namely an acute myocardial infarction and/or severe forms of unstable angina pectoris and/or minor ischemic myocardial damage namely myocardial micronecrosis and ischemic membrane destruction.

11. (Original) The test kit as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the means for detecting give an indication when a limit value for the content of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group comprising phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens, and lysoplasmenyl choline, and/or the reaction products thereof selected from the group comprising 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol and 1-O-alk-1'-enyl-2 substituted glycerol phosphate in the body fluid or component part of the body is exceeded.

12. (New) An in vitro method for recognizing and diagnosing an acute coronary syndrome in a patient for whom an acute coronary syndrome is suspected, said in vitro method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining the level of CCTD in a body fluid sample from said patient, said CCTD consisting of choline, choline and/or trimethyl ammonium derivatives selected from the group consisting of phosphoryl choline, plasmalogens and lysoplasmenyl choline; and

(b) comparing said CCTD level in said body fluid sample to appropriate standards to determine whether or not an acute coronary syndrome is present in said patient.

13. (New) The in vitro method as claimed in claim 12 wherein said acute coronary syndrome is an acute myocardial infarction.

14. (New) The in vitro method as claimed in claim 12 wherein said acute coronary syndrome is a severe form of unstable angina pectoris.